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REVIEWS

The Stratigraphy of the Western American Trias. By J. P. SMITH.
Sonderabdruck aus der Festschrift zum siebzigsten Geburtstage
von Adolph v. Koenen gewidm. v. seinen Schülern. Stuttgart:
E. Schweizerbartsche Verlagsbuchhandlung, 1907.

Since Lower Triassic times, and perhaps earlier, the marine faunas of western America have shown a close relationship with those of eastern Asia, except when modified by the periodical invasions of Boreal forms and the occasional interruptions of Mediterranean types which gained access through Atlantic waters. At the present time the living marine faunas of Japan and our Pacific coast show a large number of identical species, though the intermingling of the shallow-water forms is prohibited by deep water east of Kamchatka and by the cold current from Bering Sea. A rise of 200 meters would close Bering strait and shut off the cold water from the north, while a greater elevation would allow easy communication between the shore forms of Kamchatka and the Aleutian Islands. It is probable that the recurrence of comparatively small elevations and subsidences of the North Pacific border accounts for the similarity of the faunas of the eastern Asiatic and the western American coasts during some stages and the invasions of Boreal types during others. This hypothesis assumes that a uniform temperature did not necessarily exist over the entire earth previous to the Tertiary, and it aims to show that the intervention of a Pacific continent during Mesozoic time is unnecessary for the explanation of the similarity of Asiatic and American faunas. An analysis of the Triassic formations of western America and a summary of later stratigraphy forms the basis for these conclusions.

H. H.

The Green Schists and Associated Granites and Porphyries of Rhode Island. By BENJAMIN K. EMERSON AND JOSEPH H. PERRY.
U. S. Geological Survey, Bulletin No. 311; 71 pp., map. Washington, 1907.

This paper deals principally with the interesting Cambrian remnants which occur in Rhode Island as broad isolated patches, and with the surrounding eruptives. Special emphasis is placed on the remarkable series